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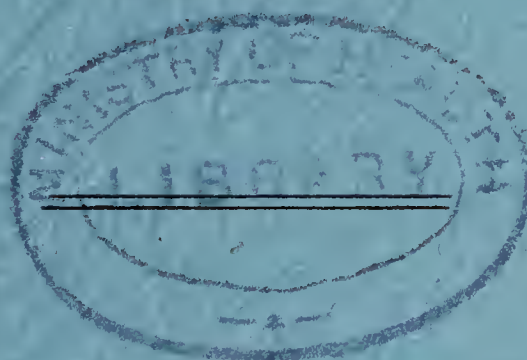
**NORTH KESTEVEN
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR**

FOR THE YEAR

1954



LINCOLN :

DONCASTERS LTD., MINT LANE

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NORTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health
and Sanitary Inspector for 1954**

Chairman : MR. W. E. YOUNG, Branston.

Vice-Chairman : MR. G. W. HUTSON, North Hykeham, Lincoln.

Treasurer : NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK LIMITED, Lincoln.

Medical Officer of Health : DR. W. SHARRARD, The Avenue, Lincoln.

Clerk & Chief Financial Officer : MR. F. FOSTER,

Deputy Financial Officer : MR. T. L. HILL.

Legal Advisers : Messrs. DANBY, EPTONS & GRIFFITHS, Solicitors, Lincoln.

*Rating and Valuation Officer & Housing
Tenancy Manager.* MR. A. ELKINGTON,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :
MR. J. CHADWICK (*deceased*)

Deputy Surveyor : MR. J. FREEMAN

Additional Sanitary Inspector :
MR. J. L. McFALL

Council Offices :
31 Clasketgate, Lincoln,
Telephone No. 8617.
Surveyors — 10095
Pumping Station, Waneham Bridge,
Metheringham.
Telephone No. 230.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman act as *ex-officio* members of all Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council (except the Rating Committee).

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As your Medical Officer of Health, I beg to lay before you my report of the Health and Sanitary conditions of your District for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres)	102,178
Population 1953	32,090
1954	29,410
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921	3,825
" " 1953	7,234
" " 1954	7,419
Temporary Dwellings, including huts	231
Caravans	109
Caravan Sites	6
Rateable Value (31st December, 1954)	£123,478 (+ 3,737)
Sum represented by a penny rate	£493 (+ 13)

The usual agricultural pursuits were carried on in the District. There are also crop-drying and flax manufacture, an egg-packing station, brick-making kilns, aircraft repair works, sewage works for Lincoln City, light engineering factory, stone quarries and sand and gravel quarries, and last but not least the Malleable Iron Works.

Food manufacture in a fairly large way is also carried on at the new N.A.A.F.I. Bakery at North Hykeham and its products travel very far afield.

VITAL STATISTICS

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births—Legitimate		481	270	211	Birth Rate	17·06 (16·2)
					E. & W. 15·2	
		Illegitimate	26	12	14	
Still Births—Legitimate		7	4	3	Rate per 1,000	
		Illegitimate	0	0	0	Total Births 13·6 (18·8)
Deaths		392	202	190	Death Rate	13·3 (11·8)
					E. & W. 11·3	
Number of women dying in, or in consequence					from sepsis	0
of, childbirth					from other causes	1
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :—		Total	10	M. 7	F. 3	
		Legitimate		6	2	
		Illegitimate		1	1	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—		Total	14	M. 10	F. 4	
		Legitimate		9	3	
		Illegitimate		1	1	
Comparability Factors—		Births	·99	Deaths	1·02	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births—		Total	27·6	(38·4)		
			E. & W. 25·5			
Deaths from Measles (all ages)						1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)						0
Diphtheria						0
Pneumonia was accountable for 5·6% of the deaths.					Cancer	13·8% (11·9)
Heart Disease 44·9% (42·2).					Tuberculosis, respiratory,	1·3% (2·3).
Influenza 0.					Cancer of Lung	1·78% (1·8).
					Strokes, etc.,	9·2% (11·7).

Infantile mortality is just above that for England and Wales, which happened to be the lowest ever recorded in this country.

GENERAL PROVISIONS of HEALTH SERVICES for the AREA

The integration of the services continues surely and steadily, though one has an unaccountable sense of unease as to the precise position of the third partner (the public health service) in the new set-up, even after seven years. By its very success it is making many people sickness conscious ; without the restraining influence of personal cost, the demand, for example, for a Barium X-ray may unduly embarrass both the General Practitioner and the hard pressed X-ray department.

The future of the **Dental portion of the service** seems likely to be acutely critical if the present tendency continues for every dentist to be at full stretch without any hope of getting help owing to the persistent under replacement of dentists. Something must be done soon to forestall disaster.

The **Ambulance Service** is very popular indeed and one wonders whether the dictum heard so often in the war years would not be very appropriate now “Is your journey really necessary?” The figures for the country as a whole are astronomical, over 13½ million patients transported nearly 99,000,000 miles at a cost of almost £10,000,000.

Beds for the elderly sick are sorely needed and much thought will be needed in this regard increasingly as the years progress.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	418
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	41
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	524
Housing Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	345
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	...	21
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	70
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	45
Inspections on Complaint	...	...	...	...	...	205
Other Inspections under Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	313
Inspections under Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	125
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	56
Housing Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	13
Water Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	47
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	81
Sewer Dykes	...	...	...	...	...	46
Visits <i>re</i> Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	279
Visits to Council Houses <i>re</i> Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	1406
Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	...	104
Houses in Course of Erection	...	...	...	...	...	315
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	116
Civil Building Control	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to Housing Sites	...	...	...	...	...	1627
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	20
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	22
Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	78
Visits <i>re</i> Connections to Sewer	...	...	...	...	...	473
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	70

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Inspection of Meat

For the first six months of the year there were two licenced slaughterhouses, used for the slaughter of horses only.

When the controls on meat supplies were raised on July 1st, a further ten slaughterhouses were licenced.

The following meat was inspected during the year :—

Bullocks	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Horses
220	11	1	1071	681	218

Meat Condemned

	Bovine	Sheep	Pigs	Horses
Carcase meat	9cwts. 80lbs.	94lbs.	3cwts. 15lbs.	20lbs.
Offal	8cwts. 97lbs.	1cwt. 17lbs.	2cwts. 56lbs.	2cwts. 98lbs.

Food Premises Registered under Section 14.

Premises registered for Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	80
For making Sausages, Pies, etc.	...	...	...	29
Fish and Chip Fryers	...	...	...	13

Housing Generally

Since the end of the War and up to the end of the year the Council had had tenders approved for the erection of 931 permanent houses, 779 houses have been completed and of these 149 traditional houses were completed during the year. At the end of the year 97 traditional houses were under construction.

82 houses were completed by private builders during the year, making total of 311 since the war. 44 private dwellings were under construction at the year end.

18 applications for Improvement Grants were approved during the year.

<i>Direct Services</i>		<i>Pillar Fountains</i>	
<i>No. of</i>	<i>Popl'n</i>	<i>No. of</i>	<i>Popl'n</i>
<i>Properties served</i>	<i>served</i>	<i>Properties served</i>	<i>served</i>

Detailed Water Supply.

Aubourn, Haddington and South							
Hykeham	163	555	19	63			
Bassingham	141	509	7	22			
Beckingham	54	183	27	83			
Boothby Graffoe	42	142	—	—			
Bracebridge Heath	395	1156	—	—			
Branston and Mere	383	1351	94	373			
Brant Broughton and Stragglethorpe	147	501	21	84			
Canwick	66	226	—	—			
Carlton-le-Moorland	44	140	14	50			
Coleby	104	380	18	63			
Doddington and Whisby	72	251	—	—			
Dunston	75	258	52	180			
Eagle and Swinethorpe	98	347	—	—			
Harmston	60	207	20	57			
Heighington	212	708	40	137			
Leadenham	127	447	5	21			
Metheringham	281	977	120	413			
Navenby (includes Skinnand)	140	492	43	146			
Nocton	61	208	8	28			
North Hykeham	964	3230	—	—			
North Scarle	45	156	—	—			
Norton Disney	28	100	9	31			
Potterhanworth	65	231	18	57			
Skellingthorpe	500	1612	—	—			
Stapleford	16	58	17	58			
Swinderby	86	312	—	—			
Thorpe-on-the-Hill (includes Morton)	86	312	—	—			
Thurlby	18	67	6	24			
Waddington	340	1142	93	310			
Washingborough	248	856	58	196			
Welbourn	201	342	26	87			
Wellingore	124	455	23	73			

Samples taken from Public Supplies in 1954

<i>Nature of Sample</i>				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	TOTAL
Chemical	...	...	...	—	—	—
Bacteriological	...	...	...	37	—	37

Scavenging

Refuse is collected in all our Parishes : partly by direct labour and partly by contract.

Cesspools to private houses are emptied free at intervals of not less than twelve months. At other times, and in the case of premises, other than private houses, a charge of 30s. is made.

Privy pail closets are emptied free in the parishes of North Hykeham and Waddington. Privy vaults are emptied at a charge according to the time taken .

Sewage Schemes

During the year the work on the sewerage schemes for North Hykeham and Waddington was completed and by the end of the year a total of 592 house drains were connected to the sewer.

No further progress was made during the year with the schemes for Branston, Metherringham, Heighington and Washingborough.

Public Health Act and Housing Act, 1936

27 Preliminary Notices have been served during the year, 5 Statutory Notices have been served and 4 have been complied with by the Owners.

Closing orders were made in respect of 17 cottages.

Demolition orders made in 1952 on two cottages were made effective.

2,970 inspections have been made in the District by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

Tuberculosis (New Cases in 1954)

				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M	F.
Totals	...	...	11	13	...	1	1
Deaths	...	...	4	1	...	0	0

5 other cases were discovered during Mass Radiography of a batch of men and were reported to their respective Medical Officers of Health.

DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	TOTAL DEATHS
Small Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	11	2	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	—
Pneumonia	5	—	22
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Myelitis	2	2	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Measles	73	4	1
Whooping Cough	42	—	—
Dysentery	7	3	—
Malaria (R)	—	—	—
Hepatitis Infective	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1938

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Number on Register, 71 ; Number of Inspections, 20.

2.—Cases in which **defects** were found :—

Found, 0 ; Remedied, 0 ; Referred by H.M. Inspector, 0.

Want of cleanliness, 0.

GENERAL REMARKS

Diphtheria

Once more we have the wonderful experience of a “ nil ” return. At the risk of being tedious, I wish to stress that it is incumbent on every parent to ensure that every child is immunised before it is a year old and again when it is five years of age. Only by so doing can we be sure of freedom from this dread disease.

Scarlet Fever

The number of cases notified was small and those admitted to hospital very small. Moreover, treatment today by modern drugs is prompt and efficacious.

Whooping Cough

We had a small epidemic during the year, with no fatal results. This is in great part due to the availability of modern drugs and anti-biotics. Immunisation has now reached a stage in which it can be recommended for general use, but is viewed somewhat sceptically by many people.

Measles

Though we had only a minor epidemic of the disease we had one death. For the rest, consequential disability was small indeed.

Cancer

There was an appreciable increase in the number of deaths from this disease. It is noteworthy too that deaths from cancer of the lung showed in seven cases as compared with two the year previous.

Tuberculosis

This is a disease which should be entirely eradicated. With the advent of full employment, and the knowledge that good diet is of prime importance, plus the comprehensive care of the health service, we should be well on the way to this goal. Modern treatment however, keeps more patients alive and so may add to the number of infective foci. This pin-points the work done by health visitors who can by timely advice play a large part in the avoidance of further spread of infection.

Heart Disease

As one surveys the deaths from different causes over recent years one striking fact emerges, that, whereas in the years gone by the acute fevers such as typhoid, dysentery, cholera, etc., and surgical cases such as acute appendicitis and peritonitis, accounted for a good proportion of the fatalities, today heart disease, coronary thrombosis and the like have taken their place. The former accounted for 9 out of each 20 deaths, and the latter one in four of the total deaths from heart disease.

Thus the strain of modern life, the pace at which we live, with the emotional undercurrent always present, is tending to replace the germ in its killing effect. The male is the greater sufferer in proportion of 3 to 2 in the statistics for 1954.

Polio-Myelitis

We were fortunate in that only two cases of this dread disease were notified. There was a tragic ending, however, to one little girl patient who died during an operation from "syncope, being cardiac collapse due to stimulation of the vagus by the withdrawal of bronchoscope during operation under general anaesthesia for draining left lung of mucus whilst suffering from Polio at Lincoln Isolation Hospital."

Sewage Schemes

The connection of houses to the sewers in the North Hykeham and Waddington scheme proceeded during the year and a total number of just under six hundred had been achieved by the year end.

Finally, I wish to thank all the staff of the Surveyors' department for their loyal and happy co-operation and to Mr. Chadwick, whose passing I deeply lament. I would like to tender my deepest regards and thanks for all the work he did for our District whose wonderful record is a lasting memorial to his work. Though a Lancashire man with traditions so different, he yet entered into the spirit of this district and spent himself with zeal and forthrightness in its service, right to the last.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. SHARRARD.

APPENDIX I.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.		M.	F.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	4	1	19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	6
2 Tuberculosis, other ...	0	0	20 Other heart disease ...	47	75
3 Syphilitic disease ...	1	1	21 Other circulatory disease	8	6
4 Diphtheria ...	0	0	22 Influenza ...	0	0
5 Whooping cough ...	0	0	22 Pneumonia ...	10	12
6 Meningococcal infections ...	1	0	24 Bronchitis ...	6	4
7 Acute poliomyelitis ...	0	1	25 Other diseases of res- piratory system ...	0	1
8 Measles ...	1	0	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	0
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	0	0	27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	1	0
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	8	4	28 Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	0	29 Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	5	30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	1
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus... ..	0	1	31 Congenital malforma- tions ...	4	1
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	11	32 Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	22	17
15 Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	0	33 Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
16 Diabetes ...	2	0	34 All other accidents ...	8	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	13	23	35 Suicide... ..	1	0
18 Coronary disease, angina ...	28	17	36 Homicide and opera- tions of war ...	0	0
			All causes ...	202	190

